(ग) इस समय आयकर अधिनियम के अंतर्गत सेवा के प्रत्येक पूरे किये गये वर्ष के लिए 15 दिनों के वेतन तक ग्रेच्युटी में कर छूट रखी गई है परन्तु इसकी अधिकतम सीमा 1 लाख रुपये है। यह सीमायें सरकारी कर्मचारियों और सहकारी क्षेत्र के कर्मचारियों सहित दूसरे कर्मचारियों के बीच समानता रखने के लिए निर्धारित की गई हैं। ग्रेच्युटी भुगतान पर पूर्ण छूट देने की स्थिति में दुरूपयोग की संभावनाएं हैं।

एम॰ एस॰ शूज ईस्ट लिमिटेड का सार्वजनिक निर्गम

5311. **श्री जी॰ वाई॰ कृष्णन:** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या अधिकांश मर्चेन्ट बैंकरों ने भारतीय प्रतिभूति विनिमय बोर्ड (सेबी) पर हाल के एम॰ एस॰ शूज लिमिटेड के सार्वजनिक निर्गम, जो कि न्यागत हो गया है, के मामले में पूरी मनमानी करने का आरोप लगाया है जैसाकि हाल ही में कुछ अखबारों में समाचार प्रकाशित हुए हैं;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि विगत में सेबी को विभिन्न अन्य कम्पनियों के हेराफेरी वाले निर्गमों के संबंध में बहुत सी शिकायतें प्राप्त हुई थीं;

लेकिन उन पर कभी कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की गई; ऐसा क्यों किया गया, यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं;

(ग) गत एक वर्ष के दौरान, जब सभी प्रकार के संदिग्ध सार्वजनिक निर्गम बाजार में आए हैं तब सेबी ऐसी सुस्पष्ट धोखाधड़ी वाले एक भी मामले को न पकड़पाने के क्या कारण हैं; और

(घ) सेबी ने अंतरंगी लेन-देन जोकि आर्थिक सुधारों संबंधी उदारीकरण के लागू होने के बाद बाजार में आने वाले प्रीमियम वाले लगभग प्रत्येक निर्गम के संबंध में अत्यधिक प्रचलित है, के लिए गत चार वर्षों से आज तक एक भी मर्चेन्ट बैंकर को काली सूची में न डालने अथवा किसी प्रवर्तक के विरुद्ध कार्यवाही न करने के क्या कारण हैं?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम॰ वी॰ चन्द्रशेखर मूर्ति): (क) से (घ) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा-पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

Shapes and sizes of various coins

5312. **SHRI KRISHAN KUMAR BIRLA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government contemplate any steps to rationalise the shapes and sizes of various coins and currency to remove confusion;

(b) if so, whether a large number of complaints/representations also received in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when the new coins would be brought out?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) to (d) The Government is considering a proposal for replacement of existing currency/bank notes by an altogether new design of notes. Based on some complaints received from public as well as suggestion made by RBI, proposal for changing shape and size of some coins is also under examination.

Shortage of Non-Judicial Stamp Papers

5313. **SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Govt.'s attention has been drawn to large scale complaints of shortage and black-marketing of small denomination non-judicial stamp papers;

(b) if so, what action has been taken to ensure adequate supply of these stamp papers as the same are required by public for various purposes on a day to day basis;

(c) whether Government would consider vending these stamp papers through Post Offices just like share transfer stamps; and

(d) if so, by when; and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a The shortage of Non-judicial stamp papers is due to production capacit constraints of the security Printin Presses and also abnormal increase in th demand during the recent years.

(b) To ensure adequate supply of these papers, the Government has a proposal to augment the existing production capacity.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

Sick companies referred to BIFR

5314. **SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many sick companies have been referred or registered with the BIFR during 1994 with State-wise details of such companies;

(b) in how many cases, the BIFR has recommended winding up during the corresponding period with State-wise details thereof; and

(c) how much time is likely to be taken by BIFR to dispose of all the cases registered with it as on 31st December, 1994?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FIANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that references in respect of 193 sick industrial companies were registered with BIFR during 1994. State/Union Territory-wise list of such cases is given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) BIFR has reported that during 1994, in respect of 100 references, it has after making inquiry under Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, recommended winding up to the concerned High Court. State/Union Territory-wise break up is at Statement I (*See* below).

(c) The total number of references registered with BIFR since its inception and upto 31.12.1994 were 1534, out of which 1203 were disposed of. BIFR has reported that it is not feasible to make a realistic estimate as to when all the references registered with BIFR as on 31.12.1994 would be finally disposed of. However, the time taken for disposal of cases is steadily coming down. While the average time taken for disposal of cases registered with BIFR during 1987 to 1991 was 739 days, the average time taken for disposal of cases registered during 1992 and 1993 was 457 days and 196 days respectively. For the year 1994, the average time taken for cases already disposed of was 105 days.

Statement—1

State/Union Territory-wise list of references registered and recommended for winding up during 1994

State/UTs	References Registered	Winding up recommended
Andhra Pradesh	23	18
Bihar	4	4
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	0
Goa Daman & Diu	1	0
Gujarat	17	6
Harvana	7	4
Himachal Pradesh	3	4
Jammu & Kashmir	3	1
Kerala	5	1
Karnataka	10	5
Madhya Pradesh	16	8
Maharashtra	20	16
NCT of Delhi	1	1
Orissa	2	2
Pondicherry	0	1
Punjab	9	1
Rajasthan	12	6
Tamil Nadu	20	4
Uttar Pradesh	31	16
West Bengal	8	2
TOTAL	193	100*

Note 1. *Excluding two cases (one each of Maharashtra & West Bengal) ordered for winding up during 1994 but remanded.

2. *The cases were registered during 1987 to 1994.